

Saving Troop I



I joined a bipartisan effort to help save the State Police Troop I barracks on Route 63 in Bethany. Troop I serves 19 towns in south-central Connecticut, from Derby to Hamden and Naugatuck. Because of the public safety risk involved, I helped defeat a plan that would have closed the barracks and redistributed those 60 troopers to other regional barracks.

Remembering Safe Havens

I joined state Representative Themis Klarides at Griffin Hospital to talk about the importance of Connecticut’s 16-year-old “Safe Havens” law that was passed in 2000. The law allows a mother to voluntarily give up custody of her infant at a hospital emergency room. More than 24 babies have been turned over to state care since this law was enacted.

Biomedical Research Grants



Biomedical Grants for Life-Saving Research

The state Biomedical Research Trust Fund awarded \$3.9 million in grants to three Connecticut hospitals in order to conduct new research into multiple sclerosis, children’s diabetes, bladder cancer and skin cancer. I championed the establishment of this fund back in 2002 and it continues to support valuable research projects. It gives me great pleasure to see state funds put to such good use, funding research that can help thousands of people lead better lives and eliminate so much heartache and pain for the friends and families of loved ones who have to endure these ailments.

YOUR STATE SENATOR

JOE CRISCO  
FOCUSED ON OUR FAMILIES

Representing Ansonia,  
Beacon Falls, Bethany,  
Derby, Hamden,  
Naugatuck & Woodbridge



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Focused on Our Families

FIGHTING CONNECTICUT’S  
OPIOID CRISIS



Heroin and prescription drug overdoses are claiming more lives in Connecticut every year. I fought for legislation that will positively impact the state’s opioid crisis. The legislation improves access to Naloxone, often known as Narcan, a medication that is used to treat an

opioid overdose. Expanding access to Narcan is an important step in this public health crisis. Allowing more first responders to carry Narcan will save lives. The legislation also caps first-time painkiller prescriptions to a seven-day supply, strengthens the prescription monitoring program, and releases health care professionals from liability when they administer an opioid antagonist, such as Narcan, to treat an overdose.

Local Transportation Investments

Investing in transportation is crucial for Connecticut to maintain its economic advantage, attract new businesses, and provide safe, reliable commutes for residents. I have fought for millions of dollars in state funding to improve our system of roads, rails, and trails. This includes \$2.3 million in state funding to our towns for improving roads and bridges, over \$200,000 for recreational trail improvement and expansion, and \$10 million for upgrades to the Metro-North Waterbury Line. Strengthening our transportation system is an important priority for me and I’m glad our towns are getting more funding to meet these critical needs.





## Creating Jobs for the New Innovation Economy

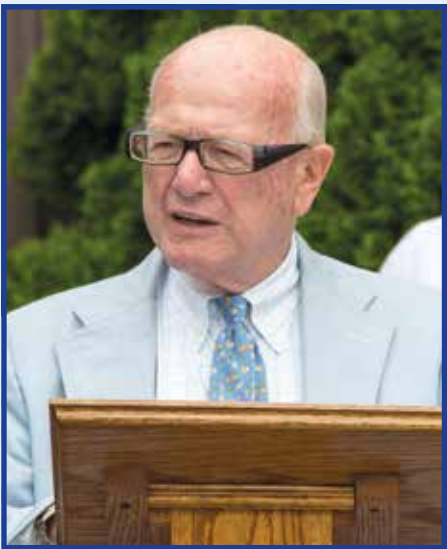
This year I championed a law to focus on the new innovation economy so we are building jobs for the next generation. From the Industrial Revolution to the modern jet engine and the financial industry, our state has been at the forefront of the nation’s economy. But as the business world changes we must once again reinvent our economy to continue to lead. This new law uses our economic strengths—a highly educated and productive workforce, top-tier universities and existing businesses—to capture future job growth at startups and expansion-ready companies.

- ▶ Develops and attracts entrepreneurs who create new startups and jobs and helps grow successful startups into larger firms
- ▶ Establishes ‘Innovation Places’—dense, local networks of innovators and entrepreneurs—where new businesses can grow faster together
- ▶ Connects colleges and universities with the private sector to convert research into new businesses
- ▶ Attracts more private funding to support growing companies



## Cutting Spending & Consolidating Government

This year, Connecticut faced a budget gap, and given our tough economic reality, I dug in with my fellow legislators to consolidate government and create efficiencies, institute fiscal reforms and reduce government benefits. **To balance the budget we did not raise taxes and reduced spending by \$1.5 billion.** The cuts we made were not easy, but it was the only way forward without burdening taxpayers and businesses.



## Protecting Critical Services

Despite a budget deficit, I worked hard to consolidate state government in a smart way in order to protect core services. We protected funding for seniors and people with disabilities, continued a strong level of local and higher education funding, maintained a commitment of investment in our hospitals, and dedicated state funding to every town in the state to hold down property taxes.



## New Classrooms for Pre-K

It was a joy to tour a new pre-kindergarten classroom that the state helped establish through the Smart Start initiative that I supported. Smart Start is a competitive state grant program designed to expand preschool classrooms in public school settings. We all know how important pre-K is for our children’s success.

## Property Tax Relief for Veterans

There is no act more selfless than serving in the U.S. military. That’s why I worked to ensure that we pay back our veterans and their families in as many ways as we can, to honor their commitment to our country. We have doubled the maximum property tax exemption that a municipality may provide to wartime veterans or their surviving spouses to \$20,000, while disabled veterans may be eligible for a further property tax exemption of \$3,000.



## Better Screening for Breast Cancer



This year I led bipartisan passage of a bill that will require insurance companies to pay for a high-tech screening that has been shown in studies to detect 40 percent more invasive breast cancers. Insurance companies will now be required to pay for a three-dimensional breast mammogram called tomosynthesis at the option of the woman covered under the policy. Tomosynthesis typically provides clearer and more accurate views and offers new opportunities for physicians to detect cancer. This new law takes a very strong stand for women’s health.